

FULL NAME	DUTY TO COOPERATE	LEGALLY COMPLIANT	SOUND	WHICH PART	WHICH PARAGRAPHS	WHICH POLICY	WHICH POLICY MAP	WHICH DIAGRAM	WHICH TABLE
Mr James Morrison	No	No	No	Policy		Policy EV9 Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation 4(2)			

WHY PLAN NOT SOUND	MODIFICATIONS	HEARINGS	HEARING SESSIONS
<p>Last open space – not meeting current needs</p> <p>4(2) Not sound, not positively prepared</p> <p>NPPF 8 makes the assumption of 'sustainable development' that includes economic, social and environmental objectives The social objective includes</p> <p>fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being</p> <p>Nanpantan has only 2 ha of its provision of amenity green space, a shortage of 5.6 ha (note that this is a revised figure supplied by the Council). We are in a unique position in Nanpantan, as the allocation of 73 ha of land to LSEP in the local plan has ensured that the 1.4 ha at Leconfield is our last and only unallocated open space. The Council has already failed to meet our 'current and future needs' as required in sustainable development. In particular, there is insufficient physical land available to meet more than 1.4ha of the 5.6ha shortfall.</p> <p>Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group (NWRG) has prepared positively by providing its own Open Spaces Strategy [1] and a document presenting the 'The future of Leconfield open space' [2]. As Officers are aware, NWRG is keen to work with the Council to protect, acquire and help manage these areas of land as much needed opens space.</p> <p>References</p> <p>[1] Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group, Nanpantan Ward Open Spaces Strategy https://cdn.website-editor.net/a8c2488736374401aecb8666b24a1266/files/uploaded/Nanpantan%2520Ward%2520Open%2520Spaces%2520Strategy%25201.4.pdf</p> <p>[2] Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group, The future of Leconfield open space https://cdn.website-editor.net/a8c2488736374401aecb8666b24a1266/files/uploaded/The%2520future%2520of%2520Leconfield%2520open%2520space%25200.2.pdf</p>	<p>Sustainable development is ignored. Adopting the Council's local plan would mean insufficient actual physical land to meet shortfalls is available. This can only be addressed by protecting Leconfield and Snell's Nook Lane (HA18) from development.</p>	<p>No</p>	

Nanpantan Ward Open Spaces Strategy

Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group

10th December 2020, version 1.4



Introduction

This document provides a community-led strategy to ensure an appropriate provision of open space for the residents of Nanpantan Ward in Loughborough.

The objectives of this document are:

- to record and categorize the areas of open space that are used by the community in Nanpantan;
- to identify shortfalls in provision; and
- to propose a strategy to overcome these shortfalls.

Shortfalls are apparent in the provision of amenity green space and allotments, as well as children's play and teenage provision. An area of land is identified that can immediately be used to reduce the amenity green space shortfall. Open space is at a premium in Nanpantan Ward due to the allocation in 2016 of nearly all open space close to residential areas to the Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park. As a consequence, apart from the one area of land identified, no other land is immediately available to augment the current provision of open space. Three areas of land are identified that may in future be able to contribute towards meeting the standards for amenity green space, allotments, children's play and teenage provision.

Location

Nanpantan Ward is located to the south-west of Loughborough and is unusual in that a large proportion of its land is owned by the University or has been allocated to the Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park (LUSEP). As areas of open space in such areas are managed by the University and are not generally available for public use, these are not considered in this document and information on their management and future use can be obtained separately from Loughborough University documents [1-3]. However, as public access is permitted to Burleigh Wood, this area of land that is owned by the University will be considered as an area of natural open space as part of our assessments.

Figure 1 shows Nanpantan Ward can be considered as four separate regions. In the west of the Ward is mainly arable land, but a considerable part of this area is occupied by the Longcliffe golf course. Part of the main University campus is within the Ward, the remainder being in Ashby Ward to the north, but the whole of the Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park (LUSEP) is contained in Nanpantan Ward. The residential area is effectively confined between Nanpantan Road to the south and to the north by the University and the LUSEP [1][4, pp.120-127]. The close proximity of the University and the LUSEP to the residential area severely restricts the open space that is available to address shortfalls in provision. Indeed, it is now clear that Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group and the Council should have considered the provision of open space in the residential areas bordering the LUSEP when the relevant Core Strategy CS23 was written [4, pp.125-126] in 2016 and opportunities should have been taken as part of that process to address the shortfall of community open space [5].

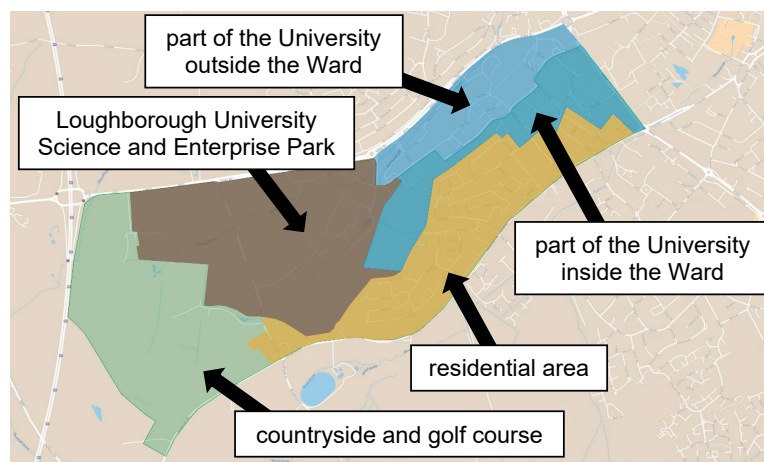


Figure 1 Land usage in Nanpantan Ward.

The areas of open space in the Ward are shown in Figure 2 and Table 1 lists the topologies of the open spaces in the Council's current register of open space. Two open space sites are in the figure but not listed in the current register. The first is the Holywell School playground (0.75ha) and it is expected that this open space will continue be managed by the school for use by the children. The second is the land at the top of Leconfield Road (1.4ha) that is currently used for a range of amenities by Nanpantan residents although it is private hands. Due to the influence of the LUSEP, the land at the top of Leconfield Road is the only unallocated open space that could reasonably be used to contribute towards reducing the shortfall in amenity green space in the Council's current register of open space. A separate document 'Case to protect land at the top of Leconfield Road' has been written by Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group that has the specific the aim of making the case to protect this amenity green space for use by current and future residents [5].

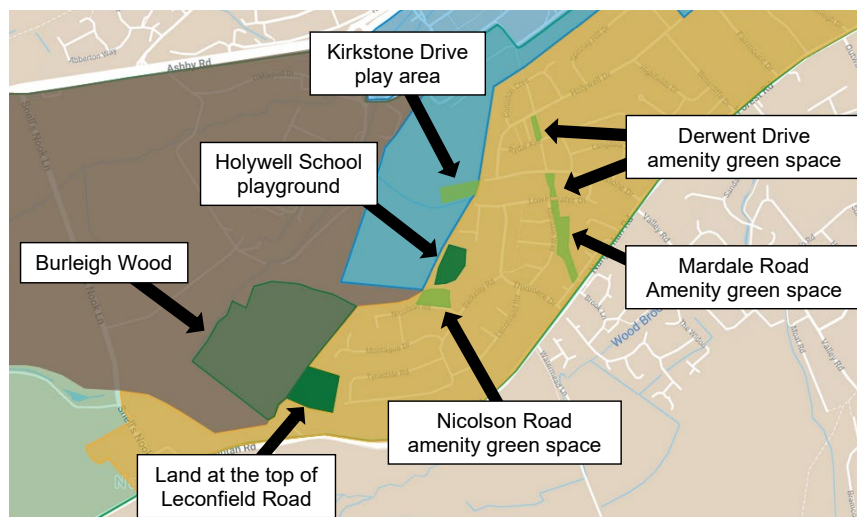


Figure 2 Map showing the locations of open space in Nanpantan Ward.

Table 1 Topologies of the open space sites in Nanpantan Ward.

Typology	Open space locations
Parks and gardens	None
Amenity Green Space	Derwent Drive (0.26ha), Mardale Road (0.73ha), Nicolson Road (0.62ha), Kirkstone Drive (0.55ha)
Natural and semi-natural open space, green corridors	Burleigh Wood (8.46 ha)
Children's play	Kirkstone Drive (0.035ha)
Teenage provision	None
Allotments	None

Open Spaces in Nanpantan Ward

This section provides a character assessment of the areas of open space in the Ward, discussed in order of the typologies listed in Table 1.

Parks and Gardens and Amenity Green Space

The Ward has no parks or gardens and there is currently no expectation that parks or gardens will be provided in Nanpantan Ward in the foreseeable future.

The four areas of amenity green space in the Ward are Derwent Drive, land bordering Mardale Road, land bordering Nicolson Road and part of the Kirkstone Drive play area.

The long narrow areas of amenity green space that from part of Derwent Drive and border Mardale Road exist to provide maintenance access to one of the principal mains water supply systems in Loughborough. There are two separate areas of open space on Derwent Drive and both adjoin buildings to their east and west sides and lead to roads to their north and south sides, Figures 3(a) and 3(b). A small row of shops borders the more northerly of two Derwent Drive sites. Both sites are small in area and their proximities to residential housing limits their usefulness for amenities other than for small children playing and dog walking.

The Mardale Road amenity green space does provide visual enhancement to the immediate area, but the proximity to a road adversely affects its feeling of safety for children's play and dog exercising and the narrow width of the land severely limits its facility for leisure and enjoyment of play activities, Figure 3(c). The road bordering the green space is one of the busiest in the residential area of the Ward as it is close to the row of shops on Derwent Drive and Mardale Road itself is one of the main routes running between the northern and southern parts of the estate. At the eastern side of the open space is a small spinney, named the 'Charnwood wildlife area', which is maintained by residents on a day-to-day basis.

Adjacent to Nicolson Road is a smaller area of allocated amenity green space, Figure 3(d). It is mainly used by children for games and for dog walking. There is a small spinney to the west of the green space which is maintained with the support of residents in the Ward. Although considerably broader than the land adjacent to Mardale Road, the Nicolson Road amenity green space borders a residential road along its southern edge and its proximity and openness to this aspect affects its safety for children playing and dog exercising.

The Kirkstone Drive amenity green space is discussed under 'children's play and teenage provision' below.



(a) Derwent Drive (north)



(b) Derwent Drive (south)



(c) Mardale Road



(d) Nicolson Road

Figure 3 Amenity green space in Nanpantan Ward

Natural and semi-natural open space, green corridors

The ancient Burleigh Wood is a natural green space and the University allows the public to access this area, Figure 4(a). As the land is not publicly owned, it always remains a threat that community access is withdrawn at any time outside the Council's control. The wood is popular with residents and provides an excellent area for observing biodiversity in Loughborough. Residents can access the wood through the Nicolson Road/Montague Road estate that it directly borders, but the route through the land at the top of Leconfield Road with its expansive panorama of Loughborough and long views in the approach to the wood is preferable for many residents [5]. There are currently no green corridors in the Ward [6].

Children's play and teenage provision

The play area at the end of Kirkstone Drive is on land owned by the University but is retained by the Council on a short-term lease due to expire in 2025. The play area was recently refurbished and provides excellent facilities, Figure 4(b). It has an equipped area for young children that is surrounded by a low fence enhancing its safety. The remainder of the site consists of a larger equipped play area for older children that includes a range of climbing frames, a basketball hoop and mini football goals.

There are no specific facilities provided for teenagers in Ward.

Allotments

There are no allotments in the Ward.



(a) Burleigh Wood



(b) Kirkstone Drive play area

Figure 4 Natural open space and the play area in Nanpantan

Shortfalls in provision

The range of typologies of open space is listed in the Council's Open Spaces Strategy [7] and two of these typologies (amenity green space and allotments) have specified minimum provisions in terms of physical area that the Council is required to provide. These minimum provisions are determined according to the number of residents in the Ward.

Since the publication of the Open Spaces Strategy [7], the Council has updated the figures for both amenity green space and play areas in Nanpantan. Modified values supplied by the Council are shown in Table 2. One update is due to the University reclaiming land at Kirkstone Drive play area, reducing its area from 0.84ha to 0.55ha. We will be looking to work with the Council to determine where alternative provision will be provided to recover this loss. In 2016, the land at Kirkstone Drive was re-developed and the excellent new fully-equipped play area now occupies the whole of this land. The Open Spaces Strategy [7] records an area of 1ha for the Kirkstone Drive play area, but the Council has provided a revised figure of 0.035ha.

The Council's Open Spaces Strategy [7, p.32] specifies that there should be 1.4ha of amenity green space for each 1000 residents. Nanpantan Ward has 5440 residents [8] and so the allocation of

amenity green space in the Ward should be 7.62ha. Using the Open Spaces Strategy availability figures [7] (before modification), the Ward had a shortfall of 5.17ha of amenity green space. Even using these unmodified figures, Nanpantan had only 0.45ha of amenity green space per 1000 residents, the smallest allocation per capita in amenity green space across all Wards in Loughborough [7]. The situation in terms of amenity green space in the Ward is of course now even worse; the actual shortfall being 5.46ha with a provision of only 0.39ha per 1000 residents. In terms of children's play areas and teenage provision, Nanpantan Ward is woefully short of the standard requirement of 1.36ha [7], a shortfall of 1.32ha.

Table 2 Current provision and shortfalls of open spaces in Nanpantan Ward.

*The allocations marked with an asterisk are only applied to new developments [7]

Typology	Current provision (ha)		Shortfall (ha)	Comment
	total	per 1000 residents		
Parks and gardens	0.00	0.39	5.46	little provision and much is of poor quality
Amenity green space	2.16			
Natural and semi-natural open space, green corridors	8.46	1.55	2.42*	this is covered by Burleigh Wood
Children's play	0.035	0.006	1.32*	only central parts of the Ward covered
Teenage provision	0.00	0.00		no coverage
Allotments	0.00	0.00	1.80	no coverage in west parts of the Ward

The amenities provided by Derwent Drive are limited due to the small areas of the sites and the green space adjacent to Mardale Road is of poor quality due to it being narrow, yet having a long border with a busy residential road. The land adjacent to Nicolson Road is currently the only area of allocated amenity green space in the Ward that is of good quality as such a typology. It is an action of this document to work with Council to improve the quality of existing amenity green space, particularly that adjacent to Mardale Road.

It is clear that the typologies of 'Amenity Green Space' and 'Allotments' both need to be addressed in terms of their shortfall. The coverage of 'Children's play' and 'Teenage provision' are also both inadequate in many parts of the Ward. The one area where there is close to the standard provision is that of 'Natural and semi-natural open space, green corridors' which is fulfilled by Burleigh Wood and we commend the excellent management of the Wood by the University and the good working relationship they maintain with Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group.

National and local policies regarding provision shortfalls

That shortage in provision should be made good is covered by both national and local government policies. Policy Statement 1 in the Council's Open Spaces Strategy covers all typologies and is overarching across all other Policy Statements [7, p.46]. It obliges the Council to achieve Open Space provision standards.

*1(b) Standards for Open Space Provision. The Open Spaces Strategy includes 'standards' for open space in Charnwood, including quality, quantity and accessibility in all settlements across most typologies. **The Council will take all reasonable and practicable steps to achieve these standards across all settlements (existing and proposed new developments, including SUE's) and across all relevant typologies.***

One of the Council's six Open Spaces Strategy [7, p.7] objectives is to use opportunities to increase the provision of open space, such as the one afforded by the AGS.

The objectives of this Strategy are to:

- *Exploit opportunities to increase the provision of open space.*

The National Planning Policy Framework [11, p.28] requires that local councils apply the findings of the Council's Open Spaces Strategy.

Open space and recreation

96. Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities. **Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.**

Immediate action to address the shortfall in amenity green space provision

Due to the allocation of much of Nanpantan's open space to the LUSEP [5], there is only one unallocated area of land in the residential area that can be used to address the shortfall in amenity green space and that is the land at the top of Leconfield Road, Figure 5. 208 of Nanpantan's 1615 households are within the accessibility standard of a 400m walking distance that is used for amenity green space in the Open Spaces Strategy [7, p.32]. Until 2016, the land at the top of Leconfield Road was under the protection of the Council's policy EV/18 as 'an open space of special character' [9, p.34]. The character of the land and its immediate area have not changed since 2016, so we can only assume that the Council would still regard it as 'an open space of special character' even though the formal EV/18 designation is now lost.

A separate document has been written with the specific purpose of protecting the land at the top of Leconfield Road [5], by demonstrating that it is well-used by residents for a range of amenities, meets the adoption requirements laid out in the Draft Local Plan LP25 [10, p.91-92] and calling on the Council to support its recognition as a Local Green Space according to the National Planning Policy Framework [11]. In generating evidence for its protection, a survey was performed to demonstrate that the land at the top of Leconfield Road is used as an informal amenity green space, providing a very broad range of amenities to residents and has done so for 50 years [5]. Nanpantan residents regard the land as giving a 'sense of place' for us - it has a history of being part of the community for generations, the land has historic heritage, provides expansive views, gives a sense of being among the rocky outcrops that form the uplands of Charnwood Forest and it forms part of the woodland priority habitat network as it borders the ancient Burleigh Wood.

It is important to note that compared to the land at the top of Leconfield Road, the existing allocated amenity green spaces in Nanpantan provide no significant visual amenities and perhaps consequently fewer wellbeing amenities. The land at the top of Leconfield Road is unique in providing a safe area to play, tranquillity, sledging, long views, adjacency to an ancient wood, blackberry picking, abundant biodiversity and geodiversity characteristics of Charnwood Forest. The residents of the Ward have shown in the strongest terms that they want to retain these unique amenities [5].



(a) Location of the land



(b) View over Loughborough from the land

Figure 5 Location and photograph of the land at the top of Leconfield Road

The area of the land at the top of Leconfield Road is 1.4ha in area and its inclusion would make a substantial contribution to reducing the shortfall in the amenity green space allocation of Nanpantan (giving a total of 3.56ha, but still less than half of the standard). We call on the Council to ensure the land at the top of Leconfield Road is protected for the many amenities it provides and for health and wellbeing benefits of the community. This can be achieved by following the process detailed in the separate document that we have prepared [5].

Future actions to address the shortfalls in provision

Once the protection of the land at the top of Leconfield Road is assured, it is important to consider sites to address the shortfalls that will still remain in categories of 'Amenity Green Space' and 'Allotments'. As shortages in 'Children's play' and 'Teenage provision' are normally only taken into account as part of new developments, these provisions will be addressed when considering the usage of any gains made in 'Amenity Green Space'.

In addition, we wish to establish two green corridors: the first to connect our main open spaces in the Ward and to improve access from Nanpantan village to our open spaces and the second from Holywell and Burleigh Woods to the uplands in the larger areas of Charnwood Forest to the south.

Amenity Green Space

It is not expected that a park or garden will be established in Nanpantan, but the considerable shortage of amenity green space in Nanpantan needs to be addressed, even after the protection of the land at the top of Leconfield Road has been achieved.

Three further sites could be considered for amenity green space. They are shown in Figure 6 as 'land to the south west of the Ward', 'land adjacent to Snell's Nook Lane' and four separate areas of 'land to the south of Nanpantan Road'. All these areas of land are outside the Loughborough settlement limit and so are currently designated as countryside and we would normally propose that they be left as such. Greater detail regarding the suitability of these sites as amenity green space is provided in the Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group document on 'Case to protect land at the top of Leconfield Road' [5] and only a brief summary will be given here.

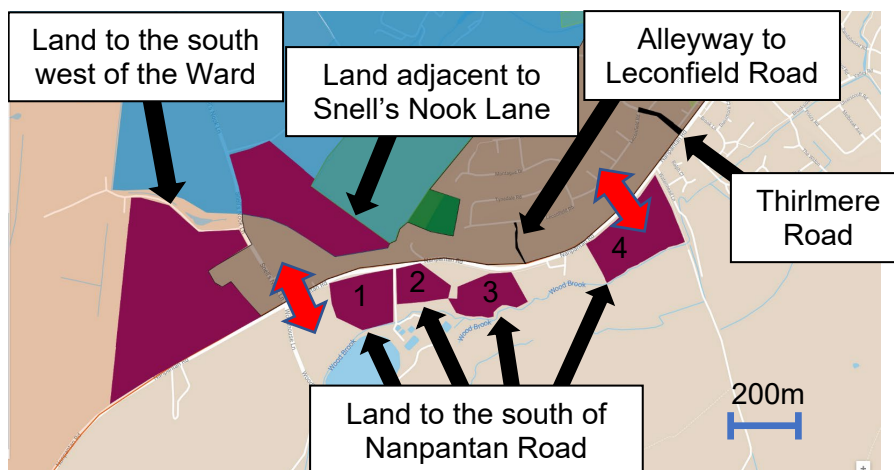


Figure 6 Map showing areas of open space that may be considered for future amenity green space or for allotments

The land to the south west of the Ward is countryside consisting of open farmed land. This land is close only to very few residents; 54 households are within the accessibility requirement of a 400m walk [7, p.32] and only 11 of these have access without crossing the busy Snell's Nook Lane, a road well known to be over capacity and currently having no signalled pedestrian crossing. This area is rarely visited at present due to its remoteness from the main residential area.

The land adjacent to Snell's Nook Lane is currently farmed, but is allocated to the LUSEP for development. The land is reachable by around 59 residential properties within a distance of 400m, although this could be increased by another 19 properties if there were a green corridor through to

the land of at the top of Leconfield Road. The land adjacent to Snell's Nook Lane provides excellent views over the Outwoods to the south and while currently feeling quite remote from Loughborough, will become more integrated in to the town with the ongoing development of the LUSEP. The land is only mildly undulating and could provide a good facility for informal physical amenities.

The four numbered areas of land to the south of Nanpantan Road (Figure 6) would all need to be accessed from the Ward by crossing the busy Nanpantan Road. Also, there are only two routes to access the main estate of the Ward from Nanpantan Road, shown in Figure 6 as 'Alleyway to Leconfield Road' and 'Thirlmere Road'. Further, considering the sequence of bends in the central part of Nanpantan Road along this stretch, there are only two relatively safe locations to locate new crossings, shown by the red arrows in Figure 6. Considering the four separate areas of land to the south of Nanpantan Road, due the locations of pedestrian crossings, locations 2 and 3 will only be within 400m of a small number of houses in Nanpantan Ward (2 and 14 respectively). Location 1 is within 400m of the houses along Snell's Nook Lane and along the western part of Nanpantan Road, giving a total of 64 of properties in Nanpantan Ward. Although the land to the south of Nanpantan Road at location 4 appears to be close to many residents, to reach an access to the Nanpantan estate (either using Thirlmere Road to the north east or the alleyway to the south west through to Leconfield Road) a distance of at least 200m must first be walked. Assuming a crossing is placed at the point of the speed limit change, the number of households that lie within 400m of the land is 55.

At present none of these sites is available for allocation as part of the open space provision of Nanpantan, as two are countryside and one is part of the LUSEP. However, should planning applications for housing development be put forward for any of these sites, priority should be given to addressing the severe shortage of amenity green space and allotments in the Ward.

Should land become available for amenity green space, we will consider at the same time how at least part of the land can be used to improve the coverage of 'Children's play' and 'Teenage provision', as are both inadequate in many parts of the Ward.

Allotments

There are no allotments in the Ward. The Open Spaces Strategy [7, p.30] stipulates that the provision be within 1000m of residents, meaning there is no suitable provision in the western half of the Ward. We understand the Council is aiming to address this shortfall by identifying and securing a new allotment site to serve the Ashby, Dishley, Garendon and Nanpantan Wards [7, p.82] and we would welcome the opportunity to work with the Council to address the shortfall. A potential site that could be considered as part of the discussion to secure a new site is the land to the south of Nanpantan Road.

Green corridors

There are currently no green corridors in the Ward.

The Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust has expressed concern regarding the increasing isolation of parts of the Charnwood Forest [12] and the two green corridors proposed in this document are both entirely within the Forest and will improve connections between parts of the Forest. The first connects the main areas of open space in the Ward while increasing accessibility to these spaces for residents in Nanpantan village, and the second aims to connect areas within the Ward that are the most characteristic of Charnwood Forest with the wider areas of Forest to the south.

The first green corridor will connect the main open spaces in the Ward without crossing any roads while also providing access to amenity green space for residents along the more westerly section of Nanpantan Road and in Nanpantan itself. These residents currently do not have access to amenity green space within the specified 400m distance [7, p.32], but the green corridor will institute a route to the land at the top of Leconfield Road. Joining all these open spaces will provide a great outing accessible from many points in the Ward and one that can include child and family play, access to nature and great views across Loughborough.

The green corridor is proposed to follow existing paths from the Kirkstone Drive play area along the perimeter of the University and to the current main entrance to Burleigh Wood, Figure 7. The Nicolson Road amenity green space is just a few metres from this path and can be accessed through its spinney. The green corridor will then follow an existing track between Burleigh Wood and the rear of the houses at Compton Close before following the north-west perimeter of the land at the top of Leconfield Road where it joins Burleigh Wood. New routes will be needed to continue this route by the edge of the wood and then along the back of properties at Nanpantan Road. The corridor would then join with an existing path in Nanpantan village. Negotiations with the University and the Council will be needed to establish these new parts of the corridor.

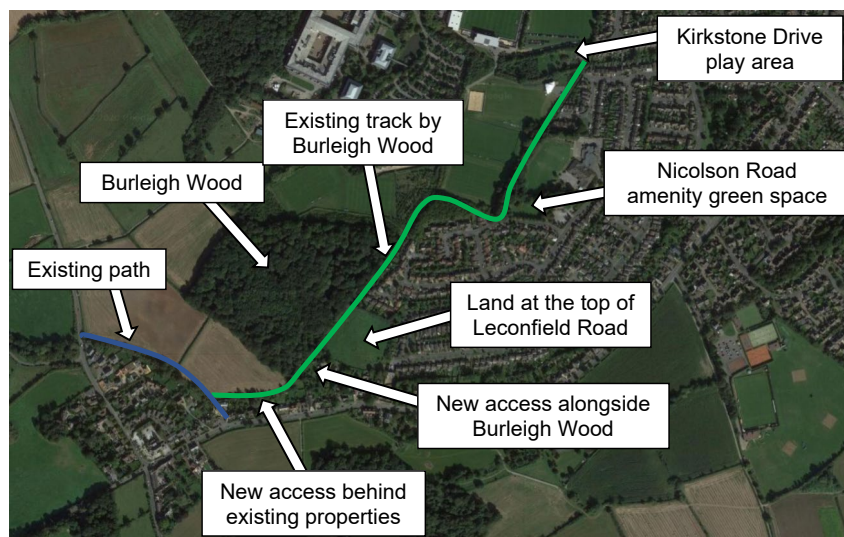


Figure 7 Proposed green corridor joining open spaces and improving access to the Ward's open spaces for properties in the west of the Ward

The second green corridor will connect the areas within the Ward that are characteristic of the Charnwood Forest to well-established parts of the Forest, particularly the Outwoods. The areas within the Ward that are characteristic of the Charnwood Forest in the Ward are Burleigh and Holywell Woods (due to their natural amenities) and the land at the top of Leconfield Road (whose upland is formed of Cambrian rock characteristic of other hills in the Forest). Two potential routes are considered in Figure 8. The first option follows a route west from Burleigh Wood and approaches the Outwoods from the north and the second option leaves Burleigh Wood to the south-east and approaches the Outwoods from the north-east. We are at an early stage of considering these alternative schemes and in specifying and establishing a suitable green corridor we will wish to work with the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent Water, The National Forest, Charnwood Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council and Loughborough University.

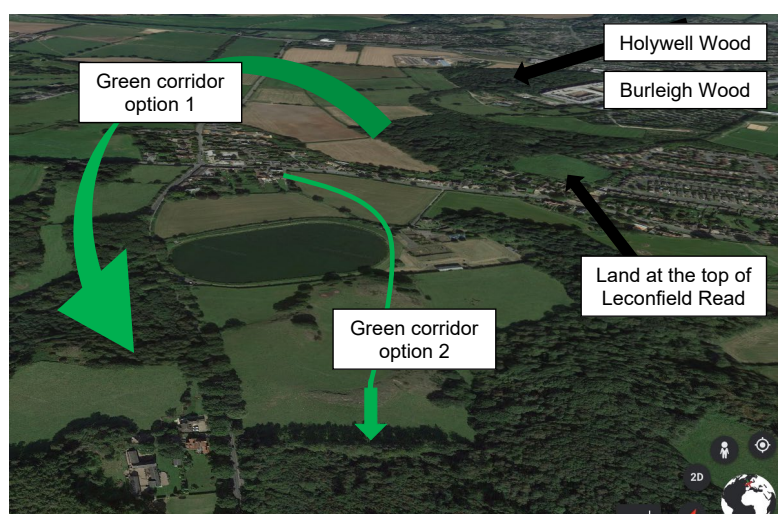


Figure 8 Two options for green corridor routes to the Outwoods

Open spaces strategy

There is an extreme shortage of amenity green space in the Ward and we first wish to protect what we have, particularly the open space at the top of Leconfield Road that is widely used by residents as if it were part of our allocation of amenity green space, even though it is not on the Council's register of open space. Justification for adopting this area of land and the detailed process of how this can be achieved is presented in a separate document 'Case to protect land at the top of Leconfield Road' [5].

The shortage of amenity green space and allotments in the Ward will then need to be addressed, although there is no open space that is currently available for adoption that is not already countryside or allocated to LUSEP. However, if local land did become available, perhaps as it is no longer required for the LUSEP or the alternative was development, first consideration should be given to meeting the shortfall in amenity green space or allotments.

The countryside to the south west of the Ward is too far from the residential area to be considered a viable alternative for amenity green space. The land to the south of Nanpantan Road may provide an opportunity to increase the allocation of open space to the standard, however it is currently countryside and we would wish it to remain so rather than being converted to an open space typology. Nevertheless, if this land was being considered for development, priority should first be given to addressing the shortfall in amenity green space and allotments in Nanpantan.

We also wish to establish two green corridors and provide improvements to the Mardale Road amenity green space, including proposing a new play area at this site.

The strategy for open space in Nanpantan Ward is given in Table 3. In addition, two actions will be followed by Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group in order to address outstanding issues that have been identified as a result of developing this document.

1. We have not been able to find evidence that when land was allocated to the LUSEP any consideration was given to the effect this loss of land would have on the community open spaces in the Ward. We are waiting for confirmation from the University and the Council that no such consideration was given. If this is the case, we will require that an appropriate open space investigation be carried out.
2. Amenity green space of area 0.29ha has been lost at Kirkstone Road. When open space is lost, it is incumbent on the Council to make up the shortfall [4, p.78] and we wish to work with the Council to find a suitable site.

Table 3 Nanpantan Ward Open Spaces Strategy

1. Protect current open space in Nanpantan Ward to include the following.
 - (a) All open space on the Council's current register.
 - (b) The land at the top of Leconfield Road that is currently used by residents as amenity green space. The process to protect this open space is outlined in detail in the 'Case to protect land at the top of Leconfield Road' [5] and consists of
 - protecting the land from development
 - recognizing the land as Local Green Space
 - managing the open space
2. Identify additional amenity green space and land for allotments to meet provision standards. At present, we do not consider that any land other than that at the top of Leconfield Road is available for amenity green space or allotments in the Ward. However, we will maintain a watching brief in case land does become available, including the following.
 - (a) Should countryside or any other land within or close to the Ward be under consideration for development, priority should be given to addressing the shortfall of amenity green space or allotments in Nanpantan.
 - (b) Should land allocated to the Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park be under consideration for development other than for its original purpose (for example, there is a proposal to change the development type to housing), priority should be given to addressing the shortfall of amenity green space or allotments in Nanpantan.
3. As and when land becomes available for amenity green space, recommendations will be made to allocate part of the land to address the shortage of facilities for 'Children's play' and 'Teenage provision'.
4. Establish two green corridors.
 - (a) We will begin immediate work on establishing a corridor to connect the main areas of open space in Nanpantan Ward.
 - (b) The second corridor to connect Holywell and Burleigh Woods to areas of Charnwood Forest to the south is a longer-term project requiring work with a larger number of stakeholders, land access permission and the establishment of signalled road crossings.
5. The amenity green space adjacent to Mardale Road is of poor quality due to its narrow width and proximity to a busy road on the estate. The Open Spaces Strategy considered Mardale Road may provide an opportunity for a new play area [7, p.87] and Nanpantan Ward Residents' Group would like to work with the Council on this project, particularly if it helps address safety concerns at this site.

Conclusions

This document has provided a community-led strategy for securing and improving the provision of open space in Nanpantan Ward in Loughborough. Nanpantan has only 2.16ha of allocated amenity green space, by far the smallest allocation per capita in amenity green space of all Loughborough Wards [7]. Residents currently use the land at the top of Leconfield Road as amenity green space [5], significantly increasing our amenity land area to 3.41ha, but this total is still substantial shortfall compared to the standard of 7.62ha. Despite our considerable shortfall, we have actually lost 0.29ha of amenity green space at Kirkstone Drive. In light of these figures, it is now even more important that we retain the land at the top of Leconfield Road and welcome working with the Council to protect it.

As the residential area of Nanpantan is tightly constrained between the University, LUSEP and Nanpantan Road, there is little opportunity for supplementing the provision. The strategy therefore is to retain what we already use, with particular emphasis on holding on to the land at the top of Leconfield Road, and to expand the provision only if countryside or any other land within or close to the Ward was to be under consideration for development. Should additional land become available,

an additional strategy will be to address the shortage of facilities for Children's play and Teenage provision. We will also investigate ways to improve the quality of the Mardale Road amenity green space and explore the possibility of creating a new play area at this site.

We wish to facilitate and improve access to our open spaces by providing a green corridor joining the open spaces at Kirkstone Drive, Nicolson Road, Leconfield Road and Burleigh Wood. This will provide an excellent connected green route for walkers and particularly for families to play, explore nature and enjoy views. We will also investigate the establishment of green corridor that joins the parts of the Ward characteristic of the Charnwood Forest (Burleigh Wood and the land at the top of Leconfield Road) with the bulk of the Forest to the south of the Ward.

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